

MINUTES
of the
Mental Health Planning Advisory Council
meeting on
August 23, 2005
held at
Airport Plaza Best Western Hotel
Ball Room – 2nd floor
1981 Terminal Way
Reno, NV 89502
Phone: 775-348-6370

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions

Judge W. Cooley, Chair of the Council, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Council Members Present:

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|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Aragon, Melanie – WRTH | • Jackson, Barbara |
| • Bennett, Bob – Vice Chair | • Lovass-Nagy, Chris – NSHD |
| • Castle, Howard W. – DETR | • Norris, Rene – Nevada P.E.P. |
| • Cooley, Judge W. – Chair | • Richard-Maley, Rebecca – DCFS |
| • Crowe, Kevin, Ph.D. – MHDS | • Romano, Anna |

Council Members Absent:

- | | |
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| • Cordell, Kathryn – DHCFP | • McCabe, Frankie – DOE |
| • Johnson, Rosetta | • Parra, Debra – State Housing |
| • Loftis, Rebecca, Ph.D. – DOC | • Thomas, Alyce |

Staff and Others in Attendance:

- | | |
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| • Hampton, Shirley – Nevada Health Centers | • Thompson, Leslie – Nevada Health Centers |
| • Hughes, Kathy – Nevada P.E.P. | • Zeiser, Andrew – Grant Consultant |
| • Kane, Julie – MHDS | |

II. Approval of Minutes from Previous Council Meeting

Judge Cooley asked if everyone had a chance to review the past meeting minutes, and if there were any additions or changes. None were made.

MOTION: Made by Rene Norris, seconded by Chris Lovass-Nagy, to approve the June 28, 2005, minutes as submitted.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED.

- Item 7 was taken out of order.

VII Executive Report

Judge Cooley congratulated Bob Bennett for doing an excellent job on bringing information to the Council about conferences held around the country. Bob then provided information on upcoming conferences. Judge Cooley urged the Council members to research conferences, attend, and share the information they obtain at future MHPAC meetings.

Rene Norris inquired about future conferences regarding children with mental health issues. She also asked if there were any guidelines on the conferences the Council members attend. Judge Cooley asked Rene to research and report information about conferences related to children's mental health issues.

Bob Bennett suggested that someone from the Council should attend the 3rd National Conference on Homelessness with Mental Illness and/or Substance Abuse Disorders, in Washington D.C., which is being held on October 26 – 28, 2005.

Bob then discussed the need to have someone go out to the Rural Clinics and talk to the various consumers about what they perceive their needs to be. Bob suggested, should the Mental Health Transformation Grant be approved, he would like to see this project funded. He would also be willing to do this in the northern area of Nevada.

Anna Romano expressed an interest in the Homelessness conference. Kevin mentioned that Carlos Brandenburg Ph.D. and Debbie Hosselkus will be attending the Homelessness conference in October.

III. Consumer Services Subgrant Annual Report

Judge Cooley reviewed the reports to be provided at today's meeting:

1. A Rainbow Place
2. MHA of Greater Nevada

3. Nevada Health Centers

No staff members were present to provide reports for A Rainbow Place and MHA of Greater Nevada.

Shirley Hampton from the Nevada Health Centers gave an overview of the organization, including what they do and the way they collaborate with mental health. Shirley stated that they are a nonprofit community health center organization of 27 years, reaching out to the geographically isolated areas, the uninsured, and the underinsured people in Nevada. The organization started out very small and has grown considerably in the last five years. Nevada Health Centers now has more than 25 health and mental health facilities throughout the state, except in the Reno area. Their Medical Directors and staff, and the administrative staff, understand the importance of integrating mental health into community projects. They have some clinics that serve only the homeless, three school-based clinics, and a mobile van program, to name a few.

Shirley said that Nevada Health Centers is also interested in improving service to the rural areas as Bob had talked about earlier for mental health. They have community health centers in Carlin, Jackpot, and Wendover.

Leslie Thompson, a Physician's Assistant from Sierra Family Health Centers who works directly with the grant program, gave an overview of how the project was started, and how they have progressed. The program was started four years ago, when they realized a large percentage of their population was in need of mental health services.

They started working with the Carson Mental Health Clinic, which realized their patients' need for medical assistance. One day a week a medical provider goes to Carson Mental Health from their facility to provide medical services and in turn a psychologist from Carson Mental Health goes to their facility to provide mental health services.

With the grant funding, Nevada Health Centers is able to treat patients who are without insurance to help them get required lab work and medications. The grant funding has helped Nevada Health Centers tremendously. Ultimately, their goal is to have a psychologist at their clinic 20 hours a week, and to staff a medical provider at Carson Mental Health 20 hours a week.

Judge Cooley thanked Shirley and Leslie for bringing their information before the Council members. Judge Cooley asked that they provide a letter to the Council on how the grant is beneficial to their program so that the Council may include it as part of the federal grant documentation.

IV. Review of FFY 2006 Block Grant Application – Andrew Zeiser

Andrew Zeiser provided an overview of the MHDS web page, which hosts the Council's website. The current grant application draft is available for download and review at: <http://mhds.state.nv.us>.

The grant application is divided into four sections:

1. Administrative and MOE requirements
2. Description of the state service system
3. Identification and analysis of needs, strengths, and priorities
4. Performance goals and action plans

Andrew then provided a detailed overview of each section of the draft grant application. Judge Cooley thanked Andrew for his comprehensive report before the federal review, and also said that the federal evaluators have complimented Nevada in the past. They have used Andrew's grant application as an example for other states.

Judge Cooley also commended Kevin Crowe and Becky Richard-Maley for testifying before the grant review committee.

Judge Cooley reminded everyone that if Council members know of any groups interested in receiving funds from the grant, through the Council subgrants, to let them know and get them involved. Judge Cooley further encouraged Council members to inform groups to get applications from the website and get their information to the Council for consideration. The Council needs to be working on this earlier in the year.

V. Review and approval of the Nominating Committee recommendations for Council membership – Barbara Jackson

Judge Cooley asked Barbara Jackson to give her report.

Barbara briefly discussed the three nominees to be voted on at this time: Cathy Dozois, James Merlin, and Kathy Hughes.

Andrew Zeiser reminded Council members about the subcommittee minutes and the original applications for review in the packet.

Andrew said that if the three applicants are approved today, the five vacancies will be filled and will be ready to be submitted for approval by the Governor. Andrew said he had the two

approved applications from the last meeting and if the three are approved today, all applications will be submitted to the Governor. The Governor's office prefers to receive them in one group.

Each of the five people will then have to go through a separate application process with the Governor and then approval will likely be final by the end of the year.

If all five are not approved by the Governor, which is rare, then the subcommittee will have to re-convene and obtain other qualified applicants.

Judge Cooley asked Barbara if she would like to go ahead with a motion to vote on the proposed applicants.

MOTION: Made by Becky Richard-Maley, seconded by Judge Cooley, to accept these three nominees to the Council.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

Rene Norris asked how long applications stay on file. Andrew said they are retained indefinitely.

Judge Cooley thanked the nominating subcommittee, especially for bringing the membership numbers up according to the requirements of the bylaws.

Kevin Crowe thanked the subcommittee also, and said that they have been a great help to the Council.

VI. Subcommittee Updates

Seclusion and Restraint – Bob Bennett

Bob Bennett gave a brief report about the discussions he had with consumer advocates across the country. Various states such as Massachusetts, Kansas, Florida, and Alaska were very impressed with the State of Nevada's policies and procedures related to seclusion and restraint, and would like to use these as an example.

Kevin Crowe mentioned the hard work Bob has done in obtaining data.

Judge Cooley said Nevada is a very progressive state and is proud to be associated with Nevada's mental health programs.

VIII. New Business

Andrew Zeiser apologized to the Council for not including the set date, time, and topics item for the next meeting to the agenda.

Andrew suggested that the next meeting be held in October to accommodate Council elections that are to occur after October 1st of the year the previous officers' terms expire. Additionally, the Council needs to take a look at the Implementation Report that contains the URS Tables, due December 1, 2005. The members will get to see a draft at the October meeting.

Andrew also announced that the Annual Service Coordination Conference, "There's No Place like Home," is being held the third week of September at The Orleans in Las Vegas. A flyer will be sent to each of the Council members as well as an invitation by e-mail.

Barbara Jackson offered to provide a tour of the Comfort Room at NNAMHS, if the next meeting is held in Reno. Barbara referred to the goal of mental health professionals to reduce and possibly eliminate using seclusion and restraint.

Kevin mentioned taking a tour of the NNAMHS hospital as a working meeting. Andrew suggested having the next meeting in Reno to allow a tour of the NNAMHS facility and have the following meeting in Las Vegas.

Becky Richard-Maley mentioned DCFS would like to host an MHPAC meeting at a Neighborhood Care Center site as a way of showcasing children's mental health programs.

Judge Cooley agreed that having the MHPAC meetings at different sites would be very beneficial.

Kevin also suggested that at a future MHPAC meeting the Council could review the MHDS website.

Becky also mentioned the DCFS website.

Chris Lovass-Nagy suggested that the subgrantees could report by telephone if this could be arranged.

Judge Cooley mentioned she was going to volunteer to do annual updates and final reports on subgrant recipients. She continued by saying that the Council needs to follow up, and asked for help with this. Rene Norris volunteered her administrative services. Judge Cooley said that she would pull up a couple of sample reports.

Rene inquired about expanding the number of Council members. Andrew explained briefly about the process, along with the pros and cons of increasing the number of Council members.

Judge Cooley mentioned that it would have to be changed in the bylaws.

IX. Public comment

No public comments were made.

X. Adjournment

Judge Cooley asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Made by Kevin Crowe, seconded by Becky Richard-Maley, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.